

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship is as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **CATHETER HAVING A TAPERED TIP**, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by or any amendment(s) referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):

NONE.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

Prior United States Application(s):

NONE.

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

WILLIAM B. ANDERSON, Reg. No. 41,585  
Y. PING CHOW, Reg. No. 30,740  
JAMES ALLAN FOX, Reg. No. 38,455  
DEREK P. FREYBERG, Reg. No. 29,250  
MARINA I. HEUSCH, Reg. No. 47,647  
WALTER KURZ, Reg. No. 37,373  
EDWARD J. LYNCH, Reg. No. 24,422  
PRISCILLA MARK, Reg. No. 41,970  
WILLIAM SCHMONSEES, Reg. No. 31,796  
SOODABEH TRONSON, Reg. No. 41,354  
HERWIG von MORZE, Reg. No. 29,484  
of the firm

*Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP*  
275 Middlefield Road  
Menlo Park, CA 94025-3506  
(650) 324-7000

and

EARL A. BRIGHT II, Reg. No. 37,045  
RONALD D. DEVORE, Reg. No. 39,958  
TIM L. KITCHEN, Reg. No. 41,900  
THOMAS A. HASSING, Reg. No. 36,159  
SUSAN K. THOMAS, Reg. No. 39,780  
PHILIP S. YIP, Reg. No. 37,265

of

*GUIDANT CORPORATION*  
P.O. Box 58167  
Santa Clara, CA 95052-8167  
Telephone: 1 800 633-3375

and

GEORGE M. COOPER, Registration No. 20,201  
ERIC S. SPECTOR, Registration No. 22,495  
FELIX J. D'AMBROSIO, Registration No. 25,721  
DOUGLAS R. HANSCOM, Registration No. 26,600  
JIM W. HELLWEGE, Registration No. 28,808  
WILLIAM A. BLAKE, Registration No. 30,548  
COLIN D. BARNITZ, Registration No. 35,061

of the firm:

**JONES, TULLAR & COOPER, P.C.**  
2001 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Box 2266, EADS Station  
Arlington, VA 22202  
Telephone: (703) 415-1500

Direct all correspondence to:

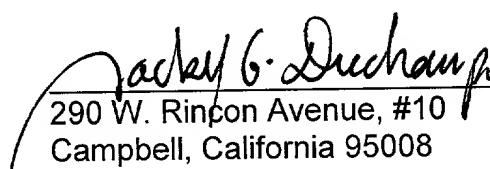
**Edward J. Lynch**  
**Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP**  
**275 Middlefield Rd.**  
**Menlo Park, CA 94025-3506**  
**Tel. No.: (650) 324-7000**  
**Direct Dial: (650) 324-7098**  
**Facsimile: (650) 324-0638**

Full name of First and Sole Inventor: **Jacky G. Duchamp**

Executed on 1<sup>ST</sup> day of AUGUST, 2001.

Inventor's Signature:

Residence:

  
290 W. Rincon Avenue, #10  
Campbell, California 95008

Citizenship:

France

Post Office Address:

(same as above)